

used as a model for colleges and universities throughout the country by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Another highlight of her tenure at Kutztown was establishing the Philadelphia Masters in Elementary Education Graduate Program. This program helped 64 Philadelphia teachers obtain master degrees from Kutztown and led to developing similar programs for teachers in Reading and Allentown.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Gekus was active in several national organizations, including the Middle States Steering Committee, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the College of Education.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the distinguished career of Dr. Elsa Gekus and all who commit themselves to teaching others.

HONORING THE 11 WOMEN
EMISSARIES OF MEMPHIS MUSIC

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to honor and recognize 11 truly inspirational women who have each played a part in making the music of Memphis world renown. Memphis's music heritage has been called the "soundtrack of America" and these talented artists deserve our thanks and are extremely justified in the recognition bestowed on them today by the Memphis and Shelby County Music Commission.

The esteemed emissaries are Jo Bridges, Joyce Cobb, Jackie Johnson, Susan Marshall, Judy Peiser, Di Anne Price, Reba Russell, Linn Sittler, Pat Kerr Tigrett, Deanie Parker and Ruby Wilson.

Tennessee is the home of country and blues music and the birthplace of the "rock and roll." We are also proud of the thousands of singers, songwriters, performers, producers, and other music industry professionals that make their homes and livelihood within the state and allow Tennessee to compete with New York and California as a hub of creativity and entertainment.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in both thanking and congratulating the new Emissaries of Memphis Music for their dedication and devotion for enriching our lives with wonderful sound and music. These 11 women are truly worthy recipients of this outstanding honor.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY OILERS ON WINNING THE 2009 NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Findlay Oilers on the occasion of their winning the 2009 NCAA Division II men's basketball championship. The Oilers defeated the Cal

Poly Pomona Broncos for the championship on Saturday, March 28, 2009, in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Oilers ended their perfect 36-0 season in overtime when senior guard Tyler Evans hit a fade-away three-point shot as time expired, clinching the university's first ever basketball title. With this win, the Oilers become only the fourth perfect championship team in Division II men's basketball history. The Oilers are also the most winning team in Division II of the past decade, with a record of 238-46.

I would also like to congratulate Head Coach Ron Niekamp and his coaching staff for their outstanding commitment to Oilers basketball. Coach Niekamp was named the 2009 Molten Division II Bulletin Coach of the Year. In addition, senior forward Josh Bostic was named the 2009 Division II Player of the Year.

I am honored to join the chorus of well-wishers as the University of Findlay and the broader community celebrates this remarkable achievement. I join with my colleagues in wishing them all continued success.

REGARDING DUTCH AMERICAN
FRIENDSHIP DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 227th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between the Netherlands and the United States of America.

On the 19th of April, 1782 in the City of The Hague, the Ambassadorial credentials of John Adams were officially recognized by Prince William V of Orange, thus establishing formal diplomatic ties between the new Government of the United States and the Republic of the Netherlands.

For centuries, the people of the Netherlands and the United States have shared a bond that has influenced the culture of our two nations and contributed to our mutual prosperity.

In September, we will celebrate the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's voyage up what would become known as the Hudson River in New York. Hudson's voyage led to the establishment of New Amsterdam and the New Netherlands colony. Celebrations commemorating this important event have already begun.

As we reflect today on the commercial bond and strategic partnership we have established with the people of the Netherlands over these many years, let us not forget how the strength of our alliance and the endurance of our friendship has helped make both our countries wealthy and stronger and the world more secure as a result.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE
VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICES
CORPS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an ambulance corps that is

celebrating 65 years of faithfully serving communities in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Volunteer Medical Services Corps of Lower Merion, Narberth, Conshohocken and West Conshohocken provides critical care services in a 49 square-mile area and responds to more than 7,200 calls for help each year.

The dedicated and highly-skilled first responders stand ready to answer calls at all hours, in the sweltering heat of summer and the frigid depths of winter, and on some of suburban Philadelphia's most heavily traveled highways, including the Schuylkill Expressway and the Blue Route.

Since its founding in 1944, Volunteer Medical Services Corps has remained true to its mission of providing the highest quality care to each patient its members transport with compassion and dignity.

The Corps owes a large measure of its success to more than 70 volunteers who selflessly give approximately 8,000 hours of service each year.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Volunteer Medical Services Corps of Lower Merion, Narberth, Conshohocken and West Conshohocken on its 65th anniversary and acknowledging the tremendous commitment and service of its volunteers and professional staff.

RYAN JAMES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan James, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 75, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Ryan has shown an extraordinary commitment to scouting as evidenced by earning several merit badges. Ryan demonstrated a tremendous work ethic in earning his personal merit badge by incorporating his own lawn mowing business.

Ryan's Eagle Scout service project consisted of painting the kitchen and fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church in Maryville, Missouri. This project continues the long tradition of community service established by the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan James for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOS
ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING
SERVICES, INC.

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. (LA NHS), a non-